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United Nations

Commission on Population and Development

Report on the thirtieth session
(24-28 February 1997)

Economic and Social Council
Official Records, 1997
Supplement No.5

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NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures.

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SUMMARY

The thirtieth session of the Commission on Population and Development was held at United Nations Headquarters from 24 to 28 February 1997. Its central theme was international migration, with special emphasis on the linkages between migration and development, including gender issues and the family.

The documents before the Commission included a report on world population monitoring, focusing on the theme of the session. The report provided a summary of recent information on selected aspects of international migration and covered such topics as the international migration agenda from Bucharest to Cairo; migration dynamics; international migration policies; documented and undocumented migrants; refugees and asylum-seekers; labour migration; gender issues; and interlinkages between migration and development. Other reports covered the monitoring of population programmes; activities on international migration of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) Task Force on Basic Social Services for All; activities of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the area of international migration; flows of financial resources in international assistance for population; programme performance and implementation in the field of population in 1996; proposed programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999; world demographic trends; and a report responding to the agreed conclusions 1996/1, adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1996, on coordination of the United Nations system activities for poverty eradication.

The Commission considered follow-up actions to the recommendations of the Conference on Population and Development, adopting two resolutions in that regard. It also recommended to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of a draft resolution in which the Council, inter alia, would urge both the Statistics Division and the Population Division of the United Nations Secretariat, along with other relevant organizations, to collaborate in the dissemination of the new set of recommendations on statistics of international migration, and call upon all relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations to collaborate and coordinate their efforts in examining international migration and development. Recognizing the need for further analysis of international migration and development and the linkages among the social, economic, political and cultural factors related to international migration and development, the Commission noted with interest that the ACC Task Force on Basic Social Services for All would be holding a technical symposium on international migration in 1998. Lastly, with regard to reporting requirements, the Commission requested that the material normally included in the report on the activities of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations be integrated into the reports on world population monitoring and the monitoring of population programmes. The Commission decided to further consider the issue of reporting requirements at its next session.

As in previous sessions, the Commission held a general debate during which members exchanged views and national experiences in the area of population, particularly with regard to the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

In reviewing the implementation of the programme of work in the field of population in 1996 and the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999, the Commission expressed appreciation for the high quality of the work of the Population Division. The Commission adopted a resolution in which

it stressed the importance of continuing the basic work of the Population Division, emphasized the importance of the Population Division's role as the secretariat to the Commission and underlined the need to further enhance the Division's efficiency, effectiveness and capacity.

The Commission also approved the draft provisional agenda for its thirty-first session, in 1998, and adopted the report of its thirtieth session.

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Chapter I

MATTERS CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

A. Draft resolution

1. The Commission on Population and Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International migration and development*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 49/127 of 19 December 1994, 50/123 of 20 December 1995 and 51/176 of 16 December 1996,

Recalling also the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[1] in particular chapter X on international migration,

Recalling further the relevant provisions contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[2] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[3] and in the Platform for Action[4] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,

Having considered the concise report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring, 1997: international migration and development,[5]

Taking note of the activities of the Working Group on International Migration of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All, as presented in the report of the Task Force,[6]

1. Urges both the Statistics Division and the Population Division of the United Nations Secretariat, along with the regional commissions, other relevant United Nations and intergovernmental organizations, and Governments providing technical assistance in statistics, to collaborate in the

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* For the discussion, see chap. III.

[1] Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[2] Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (A/CONF.177/20 and Add.1), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[5] E/CN.9/1997/2.

[6] E/CN.9/1997/4.

dissemination of the new set of recommendations on statistics of international migration[7] and to provide, at the request of Governments, technical assistance in implementing these recommendations;

2. Calls upon the Working Group on International Migration of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All to ensure that international migration remains a topic of concentration in its follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development, inter alia, by compiling a comprehensive list of issues related to international migration and development and identifying the intergovernmental mechanisms available to address them, to be submitted to the Commission on Population and Development at its thirty-first session;

3. Calls upon all relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, and other intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations to collaborate and coordinate their efforts, making full use of the expertise of existing organizations, in examining international migration and development;

4. Calls upon Governments and intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations to promote and expand the exchange of information and experiences regarding international migration and development in appropriate bilateral, multilateral, regional and interregional forums.

B. Draft decision

2. The Commission on Population and Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirtieth session and provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirtieth session;

(b) Approves the provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Commission set out below.

Provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Commission on Population and Development

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. General debate on national experience in population matters.

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[7] PROV/ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/58/Rev.1.

4. Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development: health and mortality, with special emphasis on the linkages between health and development and on gender and age.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring, focusing on health and mortality, with special emphasis on the linkages between health and development and on gender and age

Report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population programmes

Report of the ACC Task Force on Basic Social Services for All dealing with the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

Report of the Secretary-General on activities of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

Report of the Secretary-General on the flow of financial resources for assisting in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

5. Programme questions:

(a) Programme performance and implementation in 1997;

(b) Programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999 and proposed revisions to the subprogramme on population of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on progress of work in the field of population, 1997

Note by the Secretary-General on the programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999

6. Provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the thirty-second session of the Commission

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-first session.

C. Matters brought to the attention of the Council

3. The following resolutions adopted by the Commission are brought to the attention of the Council:

Resolution 1997/1. Technical symposium on international migration*

The Commission on Population and Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 50/123 of 20 December 1995 in which the Assembly, inter alia, recognized the importance from an analytical and operational point of view of identifying the existing linkages among the social, economic, political and cultural factors related to international migration and development, and of taking appropriate steps to intensify the analysis of issues involved,

Recalling also the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[8] in particular chapter X on international migration,

Recalling further the relevant provisions contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[9] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[10] and in the Platform for Action[11] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,

1. Takes note of the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All,[12] in particular as regards the activities of the Task Force's Working Group on International Migration;

2. Takes note with interest of the holding of a technical symposium of experts on international migration in 1998 under the auspices of the Working Group on International Migration of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All and urges the Working Group to ensure the participation of high-calibre technical experts from all regions;

3. Invites the Working Group, building upon all relevant past experience, including the conclusions expressed in the above-mentioned report of the Task Force on Basic Social Services for All, to continue its collaboration in the planning and convening of the technical symposium so as to provide greater insight and information on inflows, outflows, returns and integration of migrants;

4. Also invites the Working Group to develop an agenda for the technical symposium that builds on existing recommendations on definitions of international migration, focuses on the identification of measurable indicators,

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* For the discussion, see chap. III.

[8] Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[9] Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[10] Ibid., annex II.

[11] Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (A/CONF.177/20 and Add.1), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[12] E/CN.9/1997/4.

and analyses the complex interrelationships between international migration and development, including the experiences on policies concerning the management of international migration;

5. Requests the Chairperson of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All to make every effort to raise the necessary extrabudgetary resources to prepare and hold the technical symposium;

6. Also requests the Chairperson of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All to report to the Commission on Population and Development at its 1998 session on the progress made in the organization of the technical symposium, including the list of invited experts and the provisional agenda;

7. Further requests the Chairperson of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All to disseminate the results of the symposium to Member States and other relevant parties, and to report back to the Commission on Population and Development at its 1999 session.

Resolution 1997/2. Reporting requirements to the Commission on Population and Development*

The Commission on Population and Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 50/206 A to F of 23 December 1995 and 51/211 A to E of 18 December 1996 on the control and limitation of documents and the need for documents to be available in a timely manner in all official languages,

Recalling decision 1995/1 of the Commission on Population and Development,[13]

Having discussed the format and modalities for the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[14] as requested in annex I to the report of the Commission on its twenty-eighth session,[15]

1. Requests the Secretariat, in view of the decision to streamline reporting, to report to the Commission at its thirty-first session on a new document structure and periodicity and revised reporting methodologies for ensuring coverage of currently required reporting;

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* For the discussion, see chap. III.

[13] See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 7 (E/1995/27), chap. I, sect. B, decision 1995/1.

[14] Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[15] Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 7 (E/1995/27).

2. Notes that the very broad special theme for 1999 and the need for a quinquennial review in the same year will require careful and thorough planning to avoid excess documentation, and thus decides that the Secretariat should provide specific and detailed proposals on how to handle this issue for consideration by the Commission at its thirty-first session;

3. Requests that the material normally included in the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to be presented to the Commission at its thirty-first session, should be fully integrated into the reports on world population monitoring and the monitoring of population programmes;

4. Reiterates its request, as put forth in annex I to the report of the Commission on its twenty-eighth session, for a revised report of the Secretary-General on the activities of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in reproductive health, to be presented to the Commission at its thirty-first session;

5. Decides that the report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population programmes:

(a) Should be more analytic in focus and relate progress more specifically to the goals and influence of the International Conference on Population and Development;

(b) Must cover experience in all countries, place a high priority on achieving a better response rate, and use innovative and collaborative approaches;

(c) Needs to ensure coverage of the range of activities in the special theme for the year;

6. Welcomes the initiative to improve the reporting on financial flows through collaboration with the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute, and encourages exploration of opportunities to improve coverage and quality of other reports through similar collaborative ventures, for example, in monitoring non-governmental organizations;

7. Requests that the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All give greater emphasis to outcomes, system-wide achievements and progress.

Resolution 1997/3. Work programme in the field of population*

The Commission on Population and Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 51/176 of 16 December 1996 on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on

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* For the discussion, see chap. IV.

Population and Development,[16] and 51/219, section I, of 18 December 1996, on programme planning: the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/2 of 17 July 1996 on follow-up to the Conference and Commission resolution 1996/1 on the work programme in the field of population,[17]

Taking note of the report of the inter-sessional meeting of the Bureau of the Commission (Brussels, 28 and 29 June 1996), which was convened pursuant to Commission resolution 1996/1 to review the work programme of the Population Division of the United Nations Secretariat,

Taking note also of the progress on the work programme for the biennium 1996-1997 and further of the serious financial situation of the United Nations Organization affecting the work programme of the Population Division,

1. Stresses, in the context of the reform of the United Nations system and the restructuring and revitalization of the intergovernmental process, the importance of continuing the basic work of the Population Division of the United Nations Secretariat on the crucial underpinnings of population estimates and projections; basic population trends and issues, including fertility, mortality, migration, and patterns of rural and urban population change; the evolution of population policies; and understanding of the links between population and development;

2. Emphasizes that the Population Division's role as secretariat to the Commission on Population and Development is an important one and constitutes an essential part of the Division's work programme and requests the Population Division to continue to give such servicing high priority in undertaking its activities;

3. Takes note of the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999: population (Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the United Nations Secretariat), as presented in a note by the Secretary-General;[18]

4. Requests the Population Division, in collaboration with other relevant actors, to build an improved assessment and analysis of international migration as well as an improved understanding of international migration and development;

5. Emphasizes the value of the Population Information Network (POPIN) system to the international community, and encourages its further development and effective utilization;

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[16] Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[17] See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1996, Supplement No. 5 (E/1996/25), chap. I, sect. C, resolution 1996/1.

[18] E/CN.9/1997/CRP.1.

6. Also emphasizes the importance of the preparations being made by the Population Division, in collaboration with the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental agencies, for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, to be conducted by the Commission in 1999;

7. Underlines the need to further enhance the efficiency, effectiveness and capacity of the Population Division in order to successfully implement the above-mentioned preparations.

Chapter II

GENERAL DEBATE ON NATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN POPULATION MATTERS

4. The Commission on Population and Development held a general discussion of item 3 of its agenda, entitled "General debate on national experience in population matters", at the 3rd to 5th meetings, on 25 and 26 February 1997.

5. At the 3rd meeting, on 25 February, the Director of the Population Division made a statement.

6. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Indonesia, Algeria, Malta, China, the Philippines, Tunisia, Mexico, India, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Turkey, the United States of America, Panama, El Salvador and the Republic of Korea.

7. At the 4th meeting, on 25 February, statements were made by the representatives of Bangladesh, Malaysia, Egypt, Italy, Japan, Ukraine, Peru and Jamaica and the observers for Poland and the Holy See.

8. At the 5th meeting, on 26 February, statements were made by the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Lesotho.

Chapter III

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT: INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

A. General discussion

9. The Commission on Population and Development held a general discussion of item 4 of its agenda, entitled "Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development: international migration", at the 1st and 2nd meetings, on 24 February 1997. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Concise report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring, 1997: international migration and development (E/CN.9/1997/2);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population programmes (E/CN.9/1997/3);

(c) Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All (E/CN.9/1997/4);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the area of international migration (E/CN.9/1997/5);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the flows of financial resources in international assistance for population (E/CN.9/1997/6).

10. At the 1st meeting, on 24 February, the Director of the Population Division made an introductory statement.

11. At the same meeting, statements were made by the Assistant Director of the Population Division, who introduced the concise report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring, 1997: international migration and development (E/CN.9/1997/2), and by the Director of the Technical and Evaluation Division of the United Nations Population Fund, who introduced the report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population programmes (E/CN.9/1997/3).

12. Also at the 1st meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Turkey, Peru, the United States of America, Jamaica, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Egypt, China, Nigeria, Turkey and Japan and the observer for Norway. The representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization also made a statement.

13. At the 2nd meeting, on 24 February, statements were made by the Deputy Director of the Technical and Evaluation Division of the United Nations Population Fund, who introduced the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All (E/CN.9/1997/4); the Assistant Director of the Population Division, who introduced the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the area of international migration (E/CN.9/1997/5); and the representative of the Population Data, Policy and Research Branch of the Technical and Evaluation Division of the United Nations Population Fund, who

introduced the report of the Secretary-General on the flows of financial resources in international assistance for population (E/CN.9/1997/6).

14. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Canada, Brazil, Peru, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, the United States of America and Jamaica. The representative of the International Organization for Migration also made a statement.

B. Action taken by the Commission

International migration and development

15. At the 7th meeting, on 28 February, the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Ms. Jenny Gierveld (Netherlands), introduced and orally revised a draft resolution (E/CN.9/1997/L.4) entitled "International migration and development", which had been submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

16. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A).

17. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of Malta.*

Technical symposium on international migration

18. At the 7th meeting, on 28 February, the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Ms. Jenny Gierveld (Netherlands), introduced and orally revised a draft resolution (E/CN.9/1997/L.5) entitled "Technical symposium on international migration", which had been submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

19. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution as orally revised and amended during the discussion (see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 1997/1).

20. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Syrian Arab Republic,* Algeria, Hungary, Turkey, Tunisia, Indonesia, the Philippines and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission (Netherlands).

21. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Peru,* the United States of America,* Indonesia, Jamaica and Malta.*

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* See annex III.

Reporting requirements to the Commission on Population and Development

22. At the 7th meeting, on 28 February, the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Ms. Jenny Gierveld (Netherlands), introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.9/1997/L.6) entitled "Reporting requirements to the Commission on Population and Development", which had been submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

23. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 1997/2).

24. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of Malta.*

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* See annex III.

Chapter IV

PROGRAMME QUESTIONS

A. General discussion

25. The Commission on Population and Development held a general discussion of item 5 of its agenda, entitled "Programme questions", at the 5th and 6th meetings, on 26 February 1997. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the progress of work in the field of population in 1996: Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the United Nations Secretariat (E/CN.9/1997/7);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the proposed programme of work in population for the biennium 1998-1999 (E/CN.9/1997/8);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on world demographic trends (E/CN.9/1997/9);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General on the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999: population (Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the United Nations Secretariat) (E/CN.9/1997/CRP.1).

26. At the 5th meeting, on 26 February, the Director of the Population Division made an introductory statement. Statements were also made by the Chief of the Fertility and Family Planning Section, the Chief of the Mortality and Migration Section, the representative of the Population Estimates and Projections Section and the Chief of the Population Policy Section, all of the Population Division.

27. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Germany, India, Malaysia, Italy, Hungary, Jamaica, the United States of America, Nigeria, France, the Netherlands, the Philippines and the Syrian Arab Republic. The representative of the Economic Commission for Europe also made a statement.

28. At the 6th meeting, on 26 February, statements were made by the Chief of the Population and Development Section of the Population Division, the Assistant Director of the Population Division, the Director of the United Nations Statistics Division and the Director of the Population Division.

29. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of France, India, the United States of America, Hungary, Nigeria, Turkey, Jamaica, Canada, Peru, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the Netherlands and the observer for Norway.

30. Also at the 6th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic Commission for Europe, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.

B. Action taken by the Commission

31. At the 7th meeting, on 28 February, the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Ms. Jenny Gierveld (Netherlands), introduced and orally revised a draft resolution (E/CN.9/1997/L.7) entitled "Work programme in the field of population", which had been submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

32. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. C, resolution 1997/3).

33. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Egypt, Nigeria, the Philippines and Malaysia.

34. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America,* Malta* and Peru.*

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* See annex III.

Chapter V

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

35. At the 7th meeting, on 28 February 1997, the Commission had before it the draft provisional agenda for its thirty-first session (E/CN.9/1997/L.3).

36. Statements were made by the representatives of Hungary, Panama, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that were members of the European Union), Tunisia, Indonesia, Nigeria, China and France.

37. At the 8th meeting, on 28 February, statements were made by the representative of Panama and France.

38. At the same meeting, the Commission then approved the draft provisional agenda for its thirty-first session as contained in document E/CN.9/1997/L.3 (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision).

Chapter VI

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON ITS THIRTIETH SESSION

39. At the 8th meeting, on 28 February, the Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur introduced the draft report of the Commission on its thirtieth session as contained in document E/CN.9/1997/L.2.

40. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft report and authorized the Rapporteur to finalize it in consultation with the Bureau by incorporating therein the proceedings of the 7th and 8th meetings.

Chapter VII

ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Opening and duration of the session

41. The Commission on Population and Development held its thirtieth session at United Nations Headquarters from 24 to 28 February 1997. The Commission held eight meetings (1st to 8th).

42. The session was opened by the Director of the Population Division of the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the United Nations Secretariat.

43. Introductory statements were made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund and the Director of the Population Division.

B. Attendance

44. The session was attended by 41 States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for one non-member State also attended. Representatives of specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations also attended. A list of participants is given in annex I to the present report.

C. Election of officers

45. At the 1st and 2nd meetings, on 24 February, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairman: José Gomez de León (Mexico)

Vice-Chairmen: András Klinger (Hungary)
Jenny Gierveld (Netherlands)
Akintobi Kadejo (Nigeria)

Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur: Raj Abdul Karim (Malaysia)

D. Agenda

46. At the 1st meeting, on 24 February, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda contained in document E/CN.9/1997/1. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. General debate on national experience in population matters.

4. Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development: international migration.

5. Programme questions:

(a) Programme performance and implementation in 1996;

(b) Proposed programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999.

6. Provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirtieth session.

E. Documentation

47. The documents before the Commission at its thirtieth session are listed in annex II to the present report.

F. Consultation with non-governmental organizations

48. In accordance with rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, representatives of the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council made statements in connection with agenda item 4:

General: International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

Special: International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres

International Union for the Scientific Study of Population

G. Decisions taken by the Commission on organizational matters

Poverty eradication

49. At the 4th meeting, on 25 February, the Director of the Population Division introduced a note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.9/1997/10) entitled "Agreed conclusions 1996/1 adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 1996 coordination segment on coordination of the United Nations system of activities for poverty eradication".

50. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representative of the United States of America and the observer for the Holy See.

51. At the 7th meeting, on 28 February, the Commission, acting upon the proposal of the Chairman, decided to authorize the Secretariat to summarize the comments made on the issue of poverty eradication and transmit them to the Secretary-General for inclusion in his report on the issue to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1997.

Inter-sessional Bureau meetings

52. At the 7th meeting, on 28 February, following statements by the representatives of Hungary, Tunisia, the United States of America, and Nigeria and the Director of the Population Division, the Commission, acting upon the proposal of the Chairman, decided to authorize the Bureau to hold inter-sessional meetings in preparation for its sessions on a yearly basis.

Annex I

ATTENDANCE

Members*

Algeria:	Abdallah Baali, Rachida Benkhelil, Zineddine Birouk
Bangladesh:	Muhammed Ali, Anwarul Karim Chowdhury, Muhammad Ali Sorcar
Belgium:	Alex Reyn, R. L. Cliquet, R. Schoenmaeckers, A. Petridis, H. Brauwers
Brazil:	Celso L. N. Amorim, Elza Berquo, Sergio Florêncio, Carmen Lúcia Gillet Lamônaco, Eduardo Paes Saboia
Bulgaria:	Raiko Raichev, Zvetolyub Basmajiev
Canada:	Ross Hynes, Peter Lilius, Ruth Archibald, Sally Andrews, Susan Howell, Drew McVey
China:	Li Honggui, Zhao Zhipei, Qiu Shaofang, Hu Hongtao, Bai Yongjie
Congo:	Daniel Abibi, Désiré Nkounkou
Côte d'Ivoire:	Youssoufou Bamba, Djenebou Kaba, Largaton G. Outtara
Egypt:	Nabil Elaraby, Soliman Awaad, Adel M. Abdellatif, Maha Kamal Hemida, Amany Fahmy
El Salvador:	Ricardo G. Castaneda, Ana Hazel Escrich de Guillén, María Soledad Argueta, Carlos E. García
Ethiopia:	Mekonnen Manayazewal, Fesseha Asghedorn Tessema, Daniel Tadesse Taye
France:	Gérard Moreau, Patrick Festy, Janie Letrot, Jacques Véron, Annie de Calan, Jean-Marc Chataigner, Philippe Delacroix
Germany:	Gerhard Henze, Charlotte Hoehn, Wolfgang Runge, Jutta Burghardt, Ingolf Dietrich, Reiner Schulz, Andrea Kienle
Hungary:	András Klinger
India:	Y. N. Chaturvedi, Pravin Chandra Visaria, Rajat Saha
Indonesia:	Nugroho Wisnumurti, Prijono Tjiptoherijanto, Mochamad S. Hidayat, S. Ari Wardhana

* Cameroon, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Venezuela were not represented at the session.

Iran (Islamic Republic of):	Bagher Asadi, Mohammad Asai-Ardakani, Mohammad-Reza Hadji Karim Djabbari
Italy:	Francesco Paolo Fulci, Giulio Terzi di Sant'Agata, Antonio Golini, Giorgio Marrapodi
Jamaica:	Easton Williams
Japan:	Masaki Konishi, Makoto Ato, Hiroyasu Kobayashi, Kunio Nakamura, Yutaka Yoshino
Kenya:	B. A. Bullut, Adam Adawa
Lesotho:	Percy M. Mangoaela, M. E. Rapolaki, M. F. Morojele, L. W. Ralitsoele
Malaysia:	Raj Abdul Karim, Aminah Abdul Rahman, Amran Mohamed Zin, Siti Hajjar Adnin
Malta:	Victor Seychell, Victor Pace, Joanna Darmanin, Elaine Miller
Mexico:	José Gomez de Leon, Daniel Hernandez, Gerardo Lozano, Norberto Terrazas, Jorge Cruz Rico, Rodolfo Tuiran Gutierrez, Gustavo Mohar
Netherlands:	N. H. Biegman, A. de Jong, A. Papineau Salm, R. Weiffenbach-Steeghs, J. Gierveld
Nigeria:	Chris Ugokwe, Akintobi Kadejo, Sam A. Otuyelo, Ambrose D. Ojimba
Panama:	Guillermo Castro Herrera
Peru:	Fernando Guillén, Carlos Eduardo Aramburú, Miguel Barreto, Ana Peña Doig
Philippines:	Felipe Mabilangan, Lourdes V. Ramiro-Lopez, Ruth S. Limjuco, Libran N. Cabactulan, Aurora Perez, Jimmy D. Blas, Glenn F. Corpin
Republic of Korea:	Myung-Chul Hahm, Nam-Hoon Cho, Hye-ran Yoo
Russian Federation:	Nikolai V. Chulkov, Boris S. Avramenko, Alexei A. Novikov, Aleksandr A. Pankin, Nikolai P. Ovsyenko
Sudan:	Hamid Ali Eltinay, Shahira Wahbi
Syrian Arab Republic:	Mikhail Wehbe, Tammam Sulaiman, Hussam-edin A'Ala
Tunisia:	Abderrazak Azaiez
Turkey:	Samira Yener, Murat Burhan, Burak Özügergin
Ukraine:	Valentina P. Tarnavska, Volodymyr M. Reshetnyak, Oleksiy I. Goloubov

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:	John Weston, Stephen Gomersall, Peter Gooderham, Ian Felton, Phillip Mason, John Hobcraft
United States of America:	Marguerite Rivera Houze, Margaret J. Pollack, Judith Banister, Richard M. Cornelius, Leslie Lebl, Paula Reed Lynch, Thomas M. McDevitt, Wendy McConnel
Zambia:	Peter L. Kasanda, M. G. B. Chigaga, Alfred Sampule

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Botswana, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Ireland, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Luxembourg, Nepal, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, United Republic of Tanzania

Non-member States represented by observers

Holy See, Switzerland

United Nations Secretariat

Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis (Population Division and Statistics Division), Economic Commission for Africa, Economic Commission for Europe, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

United Nations bodies

United Nations Population Fund

Specialized agencies

International Labour Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization, International Monetary Fund

Intergovernmental organizations

European Community, International Organization for Migration

Non-governmental organizations

General consultative status:	American Association of Retired Persons, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

Special consultative status:	Commonwealth Medical Association, International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres, International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, Population Council

Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE COMMISSION AT ITS THIRTIETH SESSION

Document number	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.9/1997/1	2	Provisional agenda for the thirtieth session of the Commission
E/CN.9/1997/2	4	Concise report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring, 1997: international migration and development
E/CN.9/1997/3	4	Report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population programmes
E/CN.9/1997/4	4	Report of the ACC Task Force on Basic Social Services for All
E/CN.9/1997/5	4	Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the area of international migration
E/CN.9/1997/6	4	Report of the Secretary-General on the flows of financial resources in international assistance for population
E/CN.9/1997/7	5 (a)	Report of the Secretary-General on the progress of work in the field of population in 1996: Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the United Nations Secretariat
E/CN.9/1997/8	5 (b)	Note by the Secretary-General on the proposed programme of work in population for the biennium 1998-1999
E/CN.9/1997/9	5	Report of the Secretary-General on world demographic trends
E/CN.9/1997/10	2	Note by the Secretary-General entitled "Agreed conclusions 1996/1 adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 1996 coordination segment on coordination of the United Nations system of activities for poverty eradication"
E/CN.9/1997/L.1	2	Organization of the work of the session: note by the Secretariat
E/CN.9/1997/L.2	7	Draft report of the Commission on its thirtieth session

Document number	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.9/1997/L.3	6	Provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Commission: note by the Secretariat
E/CN.9/1997/L.4	4	Draft resolution entitled "International migration and development", submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Ms. Jenny Gierveld (Netherlands), on the basis of informal consultations
E/CN.9/1997/L.5	4	Draft resolution entitled "Technical symposium on international migration", submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Ms. Jenny Gierveld (Netherlands), on the basis of informal consultations
E/CN.9/1997/L.6	4	Draft resolution entitled "Reporting requirements to the Commission on Population and Development", submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Ms. Jenny Gierveld (Netherlands), on the basis of informal consultations
E/CN.9/1997/L.7	5	Draft resolution entitled "Work programme in the field of population", submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Ms. Jenny Gierveld (Netherlands) on the basis of informal consulations
E/CN.9/1997/CRP.1	5 (b)	Note by the Secretary-General on the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1998-1999: population (Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis of the United Nations Secretariat)
E/CN.9/1997/NGO/1	4	Statement submitted by the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

Annex III

STATEMENTS MADE FOR THE RECORD IN CONNECTION WITH THE ADOPTION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS UNDER ITEMS 4 AND 5

Draft resolution E/CN.9/1997/L.5

The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic stated that, with regard to the term "integration of migrants" which had appeared at the end of operative paragraph 3 of draft resolution E/CN.9/1997/L.5 entitled "Technical symposium on international migration", it should be noted that the concept concerned was vague and general. The view of the matter held by the representative's delegation was that a distinction should be made between those who had migrated of their own free will and those forced to migrate unwillingly, in other words, between migrants and refugees. The two groups should be kept separate.

The representative of Peru welcomed the holding of a technical symposium on migration. However, the draft resolution adopted by the Commission (E/CN.9/1997/L.5) had not mentioned the proposal made by the expert from Peru when the item was considered in the Commission. That proposal had referred to the appropriateness of conducting preparatory activities at the regional and subregional levels in order to promote the holding of the technical symposium more effectively.

The representative of the United States of America, stated that his delegation had expressed grave reservations over the decision to include in the report to the Commission at its 1998 session on the progress made in organizing the technical symposium a list of the invited experts. As with any expert meeting convened under the authority of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, his delegation was fully confident that the steering committee for this symposium would select experts with the highest technical competency in the areas to be discussed at the symposium. It was their understanding that any list that was presented as part of the report would be for informational purposes only.

Draft resolution E/CN.9/1997/L.7

The representative of the United States of America stated that his delegation wished to express its understanding that the Population Division, in organizing its work during the next 12 months, would take into account the content of all the resolutions adopted by the Commission at its thirtieth session, including the request of the Economic and Social Council, as put forth in the draft resolution on international migration and development (see chap. I, sect. A), whose adoption the Commission had recommended to the Council, that the Population Division work with other concerned organizations to help ensure that technical support was given to member Governments interested in implementing the new recommendations on international migration statistics.

The Peruvian delegation had joined in the consensus in respect of adopting draft resolution E/CN.9/1997/L.7 on the work programme in the field of population. However, it would have preferred that the draft resolution reflect the need to strengthen the decentralized research, analysis and information-dissemination capacities of United Nations agencies and other international organizations at the regional and national levels. The Peruvian delegation also supported the statement made by the representative of the Netherlands on behalf

of the States Members of the United Nations that were members of the European Union on improving the Commission's methods of work.

Draft resolutions E/CN.9/1997/L.4, L.5, L.6 and L.7

The representative of Malta stated that it was his delegation's understanding that references to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development were consistent with the reservations of Malta as contained in the report of the Conference.